



The

Blurb



*Newsletter of The Phil–Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949*

Volume 54 Number 3

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

March 2004



Spring is coming...

soon...

no, really, it is...



The New W3AA

...looking better all the time.

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The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net**at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net**at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non-holiday Thursday** each month (except July and August) at **Northeast High School,**

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia PA

Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Exams begin and doors closed and locked at **6:30 P.M.**

Sharp! Applicants should call Dusty ND3Q at 215-879-0505 (day) or 215 482 0386 (eve) for the latest information.

Contact Phil-mont:

P.O. Box 88

Abington, PA 19001

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

webmistress Maggie K3XS k3xs@arrl.net

For club information: contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes, and articles that are for the membership e-mail list should be sent to:
wb3koj@comcast.net

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second non-holiday Wednesday** of every month except July and August at ***The Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill***

801 Ridge Pike

Lafayette Hill, PA

19444-1799

All visitors are welcome!

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater – Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

W3AA at Northeast High School –Trustee: WU3I

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia, PA

W3EM – Field Day and special event station

Trustee: W3VVS

President: W3STW

Al Tribble

2848 Carter Rd.

Trevoise PA 19053

wstw@juno.com

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Bill Popovic

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PO Box 6002

Treasurer: W3RM

Richard A. Moll

roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treasurer: N3MT

Micheal P. Taraborrelli

mtarab01@villanova.edu

Directors: W3BBB(05), N3MT (05), N3XKE (05) WU3I (04), K3XS(04), N3XYZ(04), KB3IV(A)

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Awards: open

Blurb folding:

WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Directory: WB3KOJ

DX: N3MT

Emerg. Coord.: K3HWE

Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: K3XS

Membership: W3LEN

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service: open

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3BBB

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: N3GLU

Youth: N3MT

TVI: W3VVS

VE Program: ND3Q

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

Welcome: K3CJ.

BPL: still alive and still threatening HF radio

FCC Issues Proposed Rules for BPL Systems

(ARRL, Feb 23, 2004) — The Federal Communications Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making this afternoon on Broadband Internet delivery over power line systems, commonly known as BPL.

The NPRM proposes rules concerning BPL systems (ET Docket No. 03–104) and a possible amendment of Part 15 rules regarding new requirements and measurement guidelines for BPL (ET Docket No. 04–37). According to the introduction of the document, the FCC is "cognizant that the possibility of widespread operation of Access BPL raises interference concerns and that we must protect licensed radio services from any harmful interference that might occur."

The NPRM can be viewed at the FCC web site, <http://www.fcc.gov>.

Hanover Township, Northampton County wants BPL for its residents!

From the EPA ARRL Section News: The following information was published in the Thursday January 28, 2004 Allentown "Morning Call" it is part of a story about Hanover Industrial Park by

Kathy Lauer–Williams;
"...In other business, the board voted to allow PPL Electric Utilities to offer broadband Internet service to the township.

"Alan Rickenbacher of PPL said the company had started offering broadband on a trial basis along Jacksonville Road Oct. 14. He said the trial went 'exceptionally well' and that the company got 'response beyond our expectations.' He said PPL sent 2,000 letters and more than 200 people have signed up. 'We want to expand and make the service available to all township residents,' he said.

"The board discussed charging PPL a franchise fee for using the township right of way to install equipment. Mel Jiganti of PPL said the company didn't pay franchise fees anywhere else and called the idea 'very discouraging.'..."

The E. Pa Section Staff is already at work making this information known to all in the Section, especially those in the Northampton County area.

Emergency Awareness Notes:

Clark Edwards, ARES Emergency Coordinator, who spoke at the last Phil–Mont meeting, forwarded the following web site he mentioned, containing training available by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA):
<http://www.pema.state.pa.us/pema/ical/calendar.asp>

I would like to add a few more

educational web sites for anyone interested in emergency related training.

ARRL: <http://www.arrl.org/cce/>
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):
http://www.fema.gov/tab_education.shtm
 Dept of Homeland Security(DHS):
<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/firstGovSearch>

I would like to offer a little additional note to tweak emergency awareness: Common sense sometimes gets lost in an emergency situation. The emergency may blind some to an obvious solution at hand.

As Ham Radio operators we may find ourselves in situations where we would like to show how our hobby can shine in emergencies by communicating, using our beloved gear, and helping the served agency (Red Cross, Salvation Army, Local Hospital etc.). What we always need to be sensitive to is the most appropriate, proper, and permissible method of conveying the information at hand. The information content itself needs to be considered if appropriate for the airwaves, considering on the rules of the agency we are assisting and its potential proprietary nature.

For instance, if a FAX machine and phone lines are available it may make more sense to use them for lists of names, addresses and personal information rather than reading the lists over a 2 meter connection through a repeater.

Remember, it is about communicating in the best, most effective manner appropriate for the situation at hand.

73, Larry, K3HWE Phil–Mont EC

Signs of spring... Field Day is coming...

*Hello to all Phil-mont
Mobile Radio Club members*

My name is Carmen DeCicco, KE3QB and I am your Field Day Chairman for Field Day 2004. Field Day this year is June 26 and 27, the fourth full weekend in June, as always.

As we approach closer to Field Day, I will keep everyone updated on its progress. Somethings will remain the same and some faces may change but the end result is to come out on Field Day and have fun. This year's Field Day will be unpredictable as in past Field Days. Band Conditions will vary and our total points will go up and down. Weather will hopefully be on our side but if not, we will always prevail.

We have all worked hard to earn our ham radio licenses and many have ventured to different venues in Amateur radio regardless of class or privileges. The one thing that remains constant is Field Day. In one full weekend, we as a club have demonstrated our experience and know how to setup emergency radio stations in an open environment such as Fort Washington State Park. Using different modes of communication, we have exchanged radio contacts with other fellow ham radio operators, some for fun and some to smooth out the rough edges of

Join Us as we gather for our
Fifth Hamfest at this great location!

Cherryville Repeater Association II

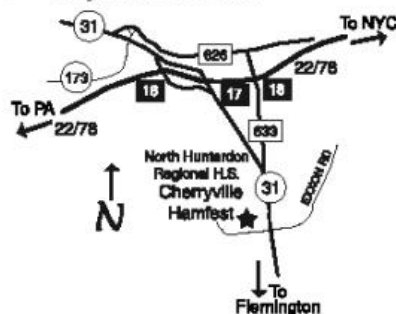
NORTHERN
NEW JERSEY
W2CRA

W2CRA
K2PM
W2CRA

Hamfest 2004

Join us on Saturday March 13, 2004 at 8:00 AM
North Hunterdon Regional High School
on Rt 31 South of Clinton NJ

- ☛ **Totally Indoors! Rain Or Shine!**
- ☛ **New and Used Radio Equipment**
- ☛ Computer Equipment
- ☛ Parts and Accessories
- ☛ **KJI Electronics**
- ☛ **DXCC QSL Field Checking**
- ☛ **Famous Cherryville Hamfest Burgers and Egg Sandwiches**
- ☛ **Door Prizes**
- ☛ Something for Everyone so bring the Family!
- ☛ SkyWarn Session



Admission is Still \$6.00
All tables \$15.00 each
Electric, \$5.00 extra
Vendor setup at 6:00am sharp
Pre-registration & payment is required.
No objectionable materials permitted

As always, there will be VE Testing.
Pre-registration is requested
VE info contact:
Marty Grozinski, W2CG
908-788-2644, before 10:00pm

Easy to get to, one mile south of
Interstate 78 on Route 31

Talk-in: 147.375 Repeater
PL 151.4

For information call (908) 788-4080
or on the web at www.qsl.net/w2cra

Vendor Registration should be sent to:
Cherryville Repeater Association II
PO Box 308
Quakertown, NJ 08868

contesting during the winter season.

Whatever the reason may be for you to be at Field Day, you as a PMRC member bring along a part of yourself to use and share with others. All members, nonmembers and even guest operators are what makes PMRC Field Days unique and stand out amongst other clubs. At PMRC, all have always been welcome to participate, operate and

join in where needed at a short notice.

I hope I will see many of the old faces and some new ones as well. Above all, come out to Field Day to help or share your ideas and thoughts or even to learn some new ones and have fun..73

Carmen, KE3QB

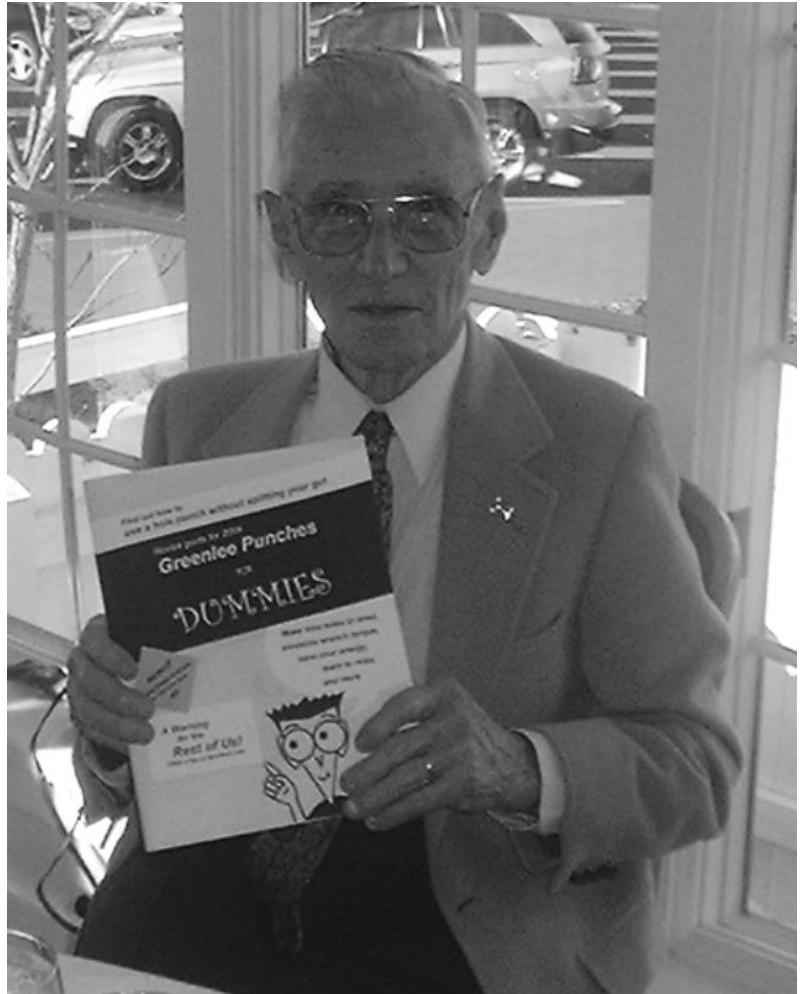
from W3STW: Spread The Word...

According to a recent propagation report, as far as the sun cycle is concerned, we are a few years past the peak of cycle 23 but a few years from the bottom. Translation, all is well! Therefore, I say continue to use your radio(s) and experiment with antennas.

As a suggestion for the radio you might transmit pictures, from a digital camera, that have been up loaded to a computer connected to your radio. There are several computer based programs that will make your computer interact with your radio, MMSSTV is one.

Making the correct mouse clicks and keystrokes, you can start enjoying slow scan television. And making your own cables, that connect between your computer and radio, will increase the love you have for your computer (you will simply swoon over those sound card control adjustments you will have to make). Making those cables will also demystify the microphone jack pin outs (especially if pin 8 has voltage on it) and those connections on the back of your radio (and you will remember PTT and the difference between Rx audio and Tx audio).

As a suggestion for antennas you might try designing a 60



A small celebration was held on Dec 28 for W3BBB's 80th birthday (29,220 days or 701,280 hrs or 42,076,800 minutes) One of his gifts was a complete instruction manual on "Greenlee punches for Dummies". This manual was presented to him because of a recent event in which the PUNCH was installed incorrectly onto the material but still cut the hole. He thought it was a little strange that it took so much effort to cut such a simple hole. Now that he has a manual on proper usage, this shouldn't happen again. --de N3FD

meter dipole, inverted vee or if you're good at it a quarter wave, designing the radials should be fun. The band width is 5250–5400 kHz, the mode is ssb VOICE only. The power is 50 watts PP so, that should make those of you that have solid state finals happy. I have modified the Kenwood 440 and Icom 751A xcvr's for this band.

Still feeling challenged? Try using the two meter rig to xmit SSTV. I'm in the SSTV mode running about 25 watts vertically polarized on 145.7 MHz fm Tuesdays and Thursdays from about 7:30 P.M. to about 8:15 P.M.

73 Al T. W3STW.

Don't forget...

The Blurb will carry ads for club members who wish to buy or sell equipment. The equipment doesn't have to be directly ham related; other kinds of electronic equipment or tools are welcome too. For instance, we just had this from Perry W3PTB:

**15" HP color monitor
asking \$20
(includes cable)
W3PTB
610 825 7601**

College-bound Hams: Free Money!

The Foundation for Amateur Radio administers over 55 scholarships sponsored by 28 amateur radio clubs, organizations and private individuals, including the PMRC-sponsored Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM, Memorial Scholarship. The Foundation administers these scholarships without cost to the applicants or sponsors.

Scholarships are open to all licensed amateurs who are pursuing a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference

given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or in pursuit of certain study programs. For example, in the case of the Haring Scholarship, recipients must reside in the EPA or SNJ ARRL sections.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2003 from: FAR Scholarships P.O. Box 831 Riverdale, MD 20738 The FAR website is

<http://www.amateurradio-far.org>



LAST CALL

IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY THE END OF FEBRUARY YOUR NAME WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE 2004 P.M.R.C. DIRECTORY AND YOU WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE THE BLURB.

MEMBERSHIP STATS
Will resume in the April BLURB

March Birthdays

03 Elaine Spencer (XYL W3BBB)
09 Fayette Toren (XYL N2MT)
11 Gale Ackerman (XYL N3DO)
Josh Bowers – KB3HPS
15 Dottie Scialdone-Maresca – K3YPH
16 Susan Vece (XYL W2AJV)
18 Ed Losco – N3DLV
21 Ben Roeshman – W3LKI
23 Therese Cechony (XYL W2GER*)
23 Henry Platt – W3UI
25 Perry Blum – W3PTB
27 William (Red) MacKenzie – W3RED
28 Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)
31 Ted Lada – N3FTZ
*MEMBERSHIP PENDING

Proposed new member:

Gerald Cechony – W2GER (extra)

Nickname: Gerry

7701 McCallum Street

Philadelphia, PA 19118-4314

Phone: 215-247-2373

Occupation: Patent Attorney

Ask Ted: Saying Goodbye to Your Old Hard Disk

You have just purchased and set up your new system, and it's a screamer!

You can't wait to get started!

But first, you have to prepare your "old" drive for disposal. If you're like me, that PC's hard drive contains a collection of data about your personal and financial life. If it were to get into the wrong hands, people could, at a minimum steal your identity, and at worst, steal your money. You may think that you are safe because you deleted those files, right?

Wrong! Even after you delete the data is still there! All the delete does is to make an entry into the directory table saying that the file has been deleted. The file is actually still there and there are many "bad" people out there who can still recover your data.

The FAT file is the File Allocation Table. It is an index system of where things are found on your disk drive. The directory figures out how much space, or how many clusters, your file is going to need, and adds that information plus the beginning address of that file to it's table. That points to the FAT table or cluster table. This way, when you tell the computer you want such-and-such file, the computer knows exactly where to locate that file. Sometimes there is not enough unused space on your drive in a "contiguous" line, that is

A simplified Chart of a FAT file system (9x files)

Name	Date	# of clusters	start cluster
Junk.bat	7042003	11	23
Hello.exe	8111999	199	699

FAT TABLE (Clusters numbers)

23 (data)	24(data)	25(data)	26(data)	27(data)
28(data)	29(data)	30(data)	31(data)	32(data)
33(data)				

A simplified Chart of a file system the file deleted.

Name	Date	# of clusters	start cluster
@unk.bat	7042003	11	23
Hello.exe	8111999	199	699

FAT TABLE (Clusters numbers)

23(data)	24(data)	25(data)	26(data)	27(data)
28(data)	29(data)	30(data)	31(data)	32(data)
33(data)				

clusters that are in line or next to each other. The FAT file system can handle that too. It will split up the file, unbeknownst to you. When you are finished using the first half, and ready for the second part of your file, the FAT table automatically links you to the location of the rest of your file. This is a fragmented file. Below is a simplified chart of a Fat file system:

When you "delete" your file, you are actually only flagging that file to be marked as deleted in the FAT table. The first character in the name of the file is replaced with a special character. When you look for a deleted file, the FAT table will say that program, application, or document is not there. It indicates to the system that the clusters being used by that file are no longer needed and that this space is available to use again. When a new file is saved, the FAT table says:

"This original file is no longer needed. I can overwrite the space with the new file." But suppose you were using a program like Quicken, and your checking account number took up ten contiguous clusters. You deleted that when you changed banks, but the new check registrar only takes up five clusters. The "old" data still physically remains on clusters six through ten. A specialist might be able to recover the old data, it may be a very long time before the 'flagged for deletion' clusters are actually overwritten. Therefore, what you think has been deleted is still there, even if part of the same space has been used again.

Below is a simplified chart of a FAT table with a character that has been changed in the file name, thus indicating that those clusters can be re-used or recovered. There is even some "undelete" software such as UNDELETE or Norton undelete.

The software checks for this special character and will display the file name with a? as the first character. If all the clusters have not been over-written, the file can still be retrieved. Some such software is even available as free shareware.

What this means is assuming you have just deleted everything from your hard drive in preparation of passing it on to someone who can use your old computer, it is unlikely that the sensitive information has actually been overwritten and is actually "gone". How you handle this really depends on where the computer is going. If you are giving the old hard drive to a dearly trusted friend or to your Aunt Rosie, then more than likely deleting the "stuff" is sufficient.

But if you're going to give the computer to a charity, or set it on the curb for the trash man, or try to resale it at a flea market, then you don't know where your old machine will land. If the neighborhood kid is actually a computer whiz with a mean streak and has too much time on his hands, you could have problems. You could even try using a strong degaussing tool, but the data may still be recovered.

So how do you completely clean your old hard drive? Here are some suggestions:

- Don't want a big hassle? Give the computer to a trusted employee, friend, or family member.
- Buy software to overwrite the disk, and run it again and again and again. There are disk wipe programs such as Norton disk wipe.



- If you are totally paranoid, or the disk contained data that was REALLY sensitive, get out the hammer! I'm not kidding. The only absolute way of protecting your data is to destroy the hard drive.

**A special
thanks to the
XYL (Patty) for
helping with this
column**

—de Ted N3OWM



212th Monthly Phil-Mont VE Exam Session Statistics

for February 5, 2004

One candidate took two elements,
and we had an upgrade, but no new amateurs.

The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads **ND3Q**,
and the other participating VEs were
Jim McClosky **NS3K**
Eric Marano **N3YXZ**

Looks like the F.C.C. and the ARRL did a fine job again this month. Our exam session report was mailed in February 6, 2004 and the F.C.C. issued a license upgrade February 10, 2004. Not to bad for five days. I can remember, in 1989 and 1990 the session reports were sent in the same evening at 30th Street Post Office Station and the F.C.C. action took place sixteen weeks later. —de **ND3Q**

George Altimus **KA3WXV** (215-855-3856) will hold Amateur Radio Classes. No-Code Tech starts March 8th and runs 12 weeks. [http:// www.k3dn.org](http://www.k3dn.org) has dates, starting times, location, maps etc.

Upcoming Exam Sessions:

MARCH 4, 2004 , APRIL 1 , 2004 , MAY 6, 2004

(See page 2 for details)

Philmont Board of Directors Meeting

February 4, 2004

Al Tribble, W3STW called the meeting to order at 7:56 pm.

Attending the February BOD meeting were as follows: Erik N3YXZ, Mike N3MT, Al W3STW, Maggie K3XS, Steve WU3I, Dick W3RM, Ed KB3IV and Jim NS3K This was the first BOD meeting for myself and Erik

Dick, W3RM went over the clubs financial condition. Don't worry, all is well. Maggie, K3XS that the Blurb is doing well. It was also discussed that scholarship information should be in the Blurb. It was also discussed that application forms should be taken over to NE High School

On the DX front is was disussed to put interesting DX URL's in the Blurb. That's web site addresses for the uninformed.

Steve, WU3I discussed getting the tower from the widow of Irv Miller over to NE High School and installed. More info to follow.

Al, W3STW reported that KC Tracker for satellite work is kaput at the station and ideas for new software was discussed.

There were also discussions about having the club's VE team handle members license renewals and changes. The VE team is working on this even as we speak.

There was also discussion about the Club's 35 anniversary and what event if any should be held. This will require future thought.

There was also talk about new QSL cards for W3AA now that we

have relocated.

The meeting was called to an end at 9:24 pm.

Till next month 73, NS3K

Philmont Mobile Radio Club February 2004 Meeting

Philmont President, Al Tribble called the February to order at 7:58pm. He passed the microphone around the audience for intros.

Dick, W3RM gave the clubs treasury report. Membership dues is coming in but there are still members who haven't sent those checks in. Get your pens out and get busy. You know who you are. And so do we. He also reported that the schlorship fund is in good shape for 2004. But continue to contribute if you can. He also wants any club members to let Philmont know of any student who may be eiligble to apply for the schlorship.

Ed, KB3IV reported that the nets are running well. We would like to see more activity on the 10 and 75 meter nets. If you can check— in. That's why we have those fancy tranceivers, isn't it? If you are interested in running a net let Ed know and I'm sure he'll work you in. Who knows, I may even try it one day. He also reported that the sight in Broomall should be up and running soon. This should be a help to those mobiles on the Blue Route.

Maggie, K3XS made the announcement that anyone who wants to put a small announcement or ad in the Blurb to let her know.

Carmen, KE3QB the Field Day chairman reported that we will again be at the Ft Washington State Park again this year. He asks that anyone who will be going this year to let him know. Also pass the word

WU3I, Steve reported that the Ten— Tec tuner is fixed and back in service at W3AA. There is also efforts being made to obtain and install a tower at W3AA. We'll keep you posted.

Dusty, ND3Q the VE chairman gave a report on the previous VE session as well as giving the dates for the March and April sessions. March 4th and April 1st respectively. He also reported that the Warminister Amateur Radio Club will begin holding class for 12 weeks starting in March. If you are interested give a holler on the 147.09 machine. PL 131.8 I believe.

Larry, K3HWE won the 50—50 drawing.

The floor was then given to Clark Edwards, KB3JFP who is the Philadelphia County ARES coordinator and the Emergency Coordinator for the American Red Cross. He gave a most interesting talk on the County's efforts to set up a RACES team for Philadelphia and what we can do to help. This is one of the real reasons why we get to keep the frequencies we use to chat back and forth on all day. If you are interested in helping out let someone on the Board know.

The February metting was then closed at 9:00 pm. Thanks again for everyone who showed up.

Till next month, 73 NS3K

Don't forget! Last Call!

If your dues are not paid by the end of February, your name will not appear in the 2004 Phil-Mont directory, and you will no longer receive the Blurb!

*College-bound Hams:
Free Money!
(See Page 6)*

Date	March 2004 with PMRC
Mon 01	
Tue 02	
Wed 03	Board meeting at WRDV
Thu 04	VE exams at Northeast HS-- see page 2
Fri 05	
Sat 06	
Sun 07	NCS: 2m K3XS - HF W3YXZ
Mon 08	
Tue 09	
Wed 10	General Meeting at Masonic Village - see p 2
Thu 11	
Fri 12	
Sat 13	
Sun 14	NCS: 2m WU3I - HF WA3KIO
Mon 15	
Tue 16	
Wed 17	
Thu 18	
Fri 19	
Sat 20	
Sun 21	NCS: 2m KB3IV - HF KB3IV
Mon 22	
Tue 23	
Wed 24	
Thu 25	
Fri 26	
Sat 27	
Sun 28	NCS: 2m: WB3KOJ - HF W3STW
Mon 29	
Tue 30	
Wed 31	

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

The Blurb